

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Illinois
COUNTY:	Cook
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE:	

1. NAME

COMMON: SHEDD PARK FIELDHOUSE

AND/OR HISTORIC: SAME

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 3660 W. 23rd Street

CITY OR TOWN: Chicago

STATE: Illinois

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 7th-Congresswoman Cardiss Collins

COUNTY: Cook

CODE: 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Chicago Park District-City of Chicago

STREET AND NUMBER: Adm. bldg.--425 E. McPetridge Dr.

CITY OR TOWN: Chicago

STATE: Illinois

CODE: 17

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Cook County Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Cook County building, Clark & Washington Sts.

CITY OR TOWN: Chicago

STATE: Illinois

CODE: 17

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Illinois Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1974

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Glesner House

STREET AND NUMBER: 1800 S. Frairie Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Chicago

STATE: Illinois

CODE: 17

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Illinois

COUNTY: Cook

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

DESCRIPTION:

The Shedd Park Fieldhouse is sited in the southwest corner of Shedd Park, a 1.14 acre public park located in the South Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago. The area contains typical urban park play and furniture, basketball courts, grassy lawns and bench seating. The park is bounded on the south by 25rd St., by Millard Av. on the east, Lawndale Av. on the west, and the high berm of the C.T.&N. R.R. tracks to the north. The railroad line actually runs northeast-southwest, creating a trapezoidal shaped park site.

The fieldhouse is a rectangular two-story brick building, 36x78', set on a concrete foundation with partial basement. Dressed Indiana limestone is used for trim at the base of the wall, for lintels and sills of the first floor windows, and for a string course at the second story level. The walls are of rough textured gutters brown brick with horizontally raked mortar joints. The pitched roof, originally sheathed in Spanish tile, is now covered with asbestos asphalt shingles. The roof pediment is trimmed with decorative woodwork and contains thin glass windows between the vertical woodwork in the tympanum. The trim is painted a pale yellow.

A monumentally scaled entrance with wood trellis is located on the north end of the building. Entry is into a vestibule containing washroom facilities and a stairway to the second floor. Vestibule walls are of the same face brick as the exterior. The central portion of the ground floor is a 34' square game room with staff office. To the north are two small meeting rooms and a hallway with two stairways leading to the second floor auditorium.

The auditorium runs the length of the building (north-south). It has a stage with decorative piers on the north end, and a 60' balcony on the south end. Walls are of common brick. The exposed roof decking is varnished and rests upon decorative double beamed arches.

A gymnasium addition was added some years later, located just behind (north) and slightly to the west of the fieldhouse. The gymnasium is constructed of similar materials to the fieldhouse and designed in a complimentary style.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATES (If Applicable and Known)

1916

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Oak Park Fieldhouse is among the most important monuments of the Prairie School of architecture. Its architect, William Langford, a chief draftsman to Frank Lloyd Wright, was one of the four excellent architects to come out of the Oak Park Studio. His Fieldhouse is an impressive example of a well designed and detailed building in the early modern idiom. Buildings of this character are rare, and one of this size and quality is of exceptional interest. The building type is also uncommon in the work of these architects, and among fieldhouses built by Prairie School style architects, it is certainly the best. A building of this character in the Prairie style is of considerable significance internationally as well as regionally and locally.

F. S. J.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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STATE Illinois	
COUNTY Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

Shedd Park

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

1. City:

The Shedd Park Fieldhouse was built in 1916 for the Forest Park Commission, the predecessor of the present Chicago Park District. The building was designed by architect William Drummond (1876-1947), trained at the University of Illinois and apprenticed in the Oak Park office of Frank Lloyd Wright. Drummond continued as architect and designer in the right studio of Wright until 1918 when he joined in partnership with Louis Kruesel, Jr. in 1919.

After Frank Lloyd Wright and Walter G. Griffin, Drummond is considered the best exponent of the midwestern early modern design idiom which became known as the Prairie School of Architecture. It is this style that Drummond used for the Shedd Park Fieldhouse.

The museum addition was built in 1973 and designed by the firm of Michaelson & Associates.

The Park is named for John G. Shedd (1860-1936), a noted Chicago merchant and philanthropist. Shedd is best remembered for the John G. Shedd Aquarium on Chicago's Lakefront. Shedd was the instigator and major donor of the project.

It was the practice of the Forest Park Commission, and today of the Chicago Park District, to name public parks after notable Chicago business and civic leaders.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Prairie School Review, Vol.1, No.2, (1964) & Vol.VI, No.2, (1969)
Book of Chicoreans, Marquis & Co., (1917)
 Chicago Park District, (Original plans & reference library).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES								
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		OR	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees		Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	0			0		41	51	00	87	42	58
NE	0			0							
SE	0			0							
SW	0			0							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .6

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Thomas G. Yanul & Paul E. Sprague

ORGANIZATION: Illinois Historic Structures Survey DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER:
1800 S. Prairie Av.

CITY OR TOWN: Chicago STATE: Illinois CODE: 17

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Anthony J. Rebec*

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 10/1/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST: _____

 Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered DEC 30 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Hitchcock, Charles, Hall	Chicago Cook County
Shedd Park Fieldhouse	Chicago Cook County

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

Also Notified

Hon. Charles H. Percy
Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, III
Hon. Ralph H. Metcalfe
Hon. Cardiss Collins

1. Name of Site:

Common Shedd Park Fieldhouse

Historic

2. Location:

Street and Number 3660 W. 23rd St. Township Section
City or Town Chicago Zip Code Range 1/4 Section
County Cook

3. Classification:

Category (check one) Integrity (check one)
 District Building Altered Unaltered
 Site Structure Moved Original Site

4. Ownership:

Status (check one)

Private Occupied
 Public Unoccupied
 Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

Yes Restricted Unrestricted No

Present Use (check one or more)

Agricultural Industrial Religious
 Commercial Military Scientific
 Educational Museum Transportation
 Entertainment Park Other
 Government Private Residence

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's Name Chicago Park District Phone Number
Street and Number
City or Town
State County Zip Code

6. Description: Brick

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated
 Ruins Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? Yes ? No

ARCHITECTURE

7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Famous People | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: 1916

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (pre-historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates)
Use additional sheets if necessary. Wm. Drummond, architect.
National Register

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: _____ Date: _____
Organization: _____ Phone: _____
Street and Number: _____
City or Town: _____ County: _____ Zip Code _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

National Register material

